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ER0589

2 AUG 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Soviet Intentions

1. The following facts are submitted for the record, and for such action as the Executive Secretary may deem appropriate:

a. April 1, 1948:

The Joint Intelligence Committee, U.S. Embassy, Moscow, completed an intensive study of Soviet Intentions "with the assistance of specialists in the various sections of the Embassy, including consultation with the Military, Naval and Air Attaches, who concurred in its findings."

b. April 2, 1948:

The Ambassador sent a summary of the report by telegram to the Department of State. This telegram appears to have been withheld from the intelligence organization in State Department, and therefore did not reach the Central Intelligence Agency through normal channels. A copy was received, however, through CIA's direct liaison with the Secretary's office.

On the same date, copies of the report itself were transmitted by the Military, Naval and Air Attaches in Moscow to their respective departments.

On the same date, the Ambassador transmitted five (5) copies of the report by pouch to the Department of State, - "three copies for the use of the Department, and one each for transmission by the Department, if it so desires, to the Department of Defense and to the Director of Central Intelligence."

c. April 13, 1948:

Copy No. 1 of the report was received by the Office of the Undersecretary of State.

d. April, May, June, July, 1948:

An ad hoc interdepartmental committee called by the Director of Intelligence, General Staff U.S. Army, and chairmanned by the Central Intelligence Agency, carried out a continuing study of Soviet Intentions. It is believed

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that no member of this interdepartmental committee had access to the report from our Embassy in Moscow on the same subject.

e. July 30, 1948:

On this date, three and one-half months after it had been received by the Department of State, Copy No. 1 of the report was transmitted to the Central Intelligence Agency.

2. It is respectfully submitted that the National Security Council should take official cognizance of State Department's failure to transmit this vitally important estimate of Soviet Intentions to the Central Intelligence Agency at the time when it was received.

R. H. HILLENKOTTER  
Rear Admiral, USN  
Director of Central Intelligence

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